

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A. On page 7, line 22, please replace the paragraph under "Brief Description of the Drawings" beginning with "Figs. 8a and 8b" and ending with "of Fig. 7;" with:

B¹ "Figs. 8a and 8b are conceptual block diagrams showing the functionality of the WDM ~~multiplexers demultiplexers~~ and ~~demultiplexers multiplexers~~, respectively, of Fig. 7;"

B. On page 11, line 23, please replace the paragraph under "Detailed Description of Drawings" beginning with "An alternative terminal" and ending with "embodiment of Fig. 2." with:

B² "An alternative terminal node 26' architecture is provided without a tributary subsystem 34 as shown in Fig. 3. An external system ~~44~~ 42 such as a SONET/SDH terminal mux for a SONET/SDH application, an ATM Service Mux for an ATM application, or an IP router for an IP application, is used to replace tributary subsystem 34 and part of multiplexing subsystem 32 in terminal node 26. A modified multiplexing subsystem 32' with an interface 40' to external subsystem ~~44~~ 34 is provided, with the optical subsystem 30 and interface 42 being the same as the embodiment of Fig. 2."

C. On page 22, line 11, please replace the paragraph under "Detailed Description of Drawings" beginning with "Another alternative embodiment" and ending with "switching matrix 294." with:

B³ "Another alternative embodiment head-end node 224 as shown in Fig. 13 supports an alternative mixed protocol environment, in which the main protocol used is ATM, and in which some of the ATM virtual connections carry IP traffic. In this case, an ATM switching matrix 294 directly handles any non-IP ATM traffic and channels IP traffic embedded within the ATM traffic to an IP routing matrix 293. Routed IP traffic is then coupled back through ATM

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switching matrix 294. Selector 290 provides the same functionality as
selectors 90 and 190 discussed previously.
